



Environmental Justice

ACTION PLAN

Welcome to Cal/EPA's Fall 2004 Workshops on the Environmental Justice (EJ) Action Plan

The first set of workshops is designed to involve the public in the activities of Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan.

Purpose of Workshop

- Discuss goals, processes and timelines.
- Help us begin to develop guidance on key EJ issues.
- Provide input on pilot project development.

Structure of Workshop

- Open House: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Presentation/Q&As: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.





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Overview of Cal/EPA's EJ Efforts

Cal/EPA's EJ efforts involve many stakeholders of various regions, disciplines and perspectives.

Interagency Working Group

- Includes executives from each Cal/EPA board, department or office, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.
- Assists Cal/EPA in developing an agencywide EJ strategy.

Advisory Committee

- Consists of 17 external stakeholders.
- Provides stakeholder input into the direction of Cal/EPA's environmental justice efforts.

Integrated Two-pathway Approach

- Intra-agency EJ Strategy: broad vision to develop long-term EJ implementation plans.
- EJ Action Plan: short-term activities to explore complex issues, test new approaches, and develop tools.





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Overview of Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan

With the EJ Action Plan, Cal/EPA begins to explore new concepts, test ideas and develop tools to address environmental justice.

Objectives

- Develop guidance on precautionary approaches.
- Develop guidance on cumulative impacts analysis.
- Improve tools for public participation and community capacity building.
- Ensure EJ considerations within the Governor's Environmental Action Plan.

Activities

- Develop pilot projects focusing on children's environmental risk.
- Collect data and identify data gaps.
- Identify needs to be addressed and conduct preliminary cumulative impacts analysis.
- Evaluate whether additional precaution may be warranted.
- Identify mitigation strategies and develop a children's environmental risk reduction plan for each pilot project.
- Develop guidance on precautionary approaches and cumulative impacts analysis.
- Ensure meaningful public participation throughout.





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Implementation of Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan

Cal/EPA plans to conduct the activities in the EJ Action Plan in five phases during 2004-2006.

Phase 1

- Develop pilot project proposals.
- Develop working definitions for cumulative impacts and precautionary approaches.
- Inventory Cal/EPA's current public participation efforts.

Phase 2

- Collect data and identify data gaps for pilot projects.
- Inventory current precautionary approaches and identify obstacles.
- Inventory current cumulative impacts tools/protocols and identify needs.
- Develop common public participation guidelines.

Phase 3

- Conduct preliminary cumulative impacts analysis for pilot projects.
- Evaluate whether additional precaution may be warranted.
- Identify approaches and mitigation strategies and develop children's environmental risk reduction plans.
- Complete remaining public participation activities.

Phase 4

- Initiate children's environmental risk reduction plans.
- Explore implementation options.

Phase 5

- Evaluate pilot projects and prepare guidance.
- Explore implementation options.



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Public Participation and Community Capacity Building

Activities in Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan.

Inventory

- Identify current public participation guidance and practices.
- Determine what works and what can be improved.

Tools

- Develop common public participation guidelines.
- Develop a translation contract.
- Develop EJ complaint resolution process.
- Update Cal/EPA's EJ website.

Team Leader

Jim Marxen

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Cumulative Impacts

Activities in Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan.

Definition

Develop a common, objective definition for cumulative impacts.

Inventory of Methods

Inventory current studies, protocols and tools, and identify needs to be addressed.

EJ Gaps and Current Risk Assessment

Develop criteria and protocols.

Guidance Development

Develop guidance including proposals for policy, regulatory, and statutory changes.

Team Leader

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Precautionary Approaches

Activities in Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan.

Definition

Develop a common, objective definition.

Inventory of Approaches

Inventory current precautionary approaches and any program parameters that would limit precautionary actions.

EJ Gaps and Precautionary Approaches

Evaluate whether additional precaution may be needed and identify approaches that could be used to address gaps.

Guidance Development

Develop guidance and recommend implementation options.



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General Pilot Project Parameters

The following parameters will be critical in the site-selection process.

Regulatory Involvement

- Authority
- Current involvement

Community Participation

- Active community
- Existing community capacity

Environmental Data

- Existing data
- Cal/EPA resources needed to acquire data

Objectives and Outcomes

- Simple, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely
- Transferability of results

Resources and Time

- Manageability
- Feasibility
- Funding





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Thank You and Next Steps

**Thank you for coming to this workshop.
We look forward to hearing from you again as we
proceed with the activities in Cal/EPA's EJ Action Plan.**

Next Public Comment Period

Phase 1 findings and recommendations will be released in December 2004 for public comment.

Next Public Meetings

The Cal/EPA Interagency Working Group (IWG) and Advisory Committee will meet in January 2005 to receive and discuss recommendations on pilot projects. Additional public meetings are planned for 2005. All formal meetings will include opportunities for public testimony.

Next Public Workshops

We anticipate conducting the next series of public workshops in the spring of 2005.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact Cal/EPA's EJ Program staff at EnvJustice@calepa.ca.gov or (916) 324-7582.



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Pesticide Pilot Project Parameters

Project Concept

- Rural community in Central Valley.
- Must involve schools, businesses or other public places.
- Ambient air monitoring of multiple pesticides.

Objectives

- Simple, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely.

Selection Issues

- High pesticide use
- Demographics
- Weight of criteria

Pesticide Selection

- Not all pesticides can be monitored
- Volatility
- Relative use
- Toxicity
- Ability to analyze multiple pesticides in same sample

Project Constraints

- Staffing
- Time
- Lab availability

Additional Information

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